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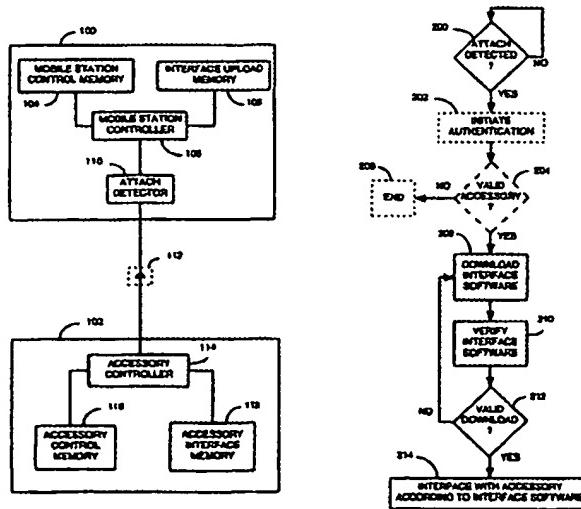
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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/07273 (22) International Filing Date: 1 April 1999 (01.04.99) (30) Priority Data: 09/060,384 14 April 1998 (14.04.98) US (71) Applicant: QUALCOMM INCORPORATED (US/US); 6455 Lusk Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92121 (US). (72) Inventor: BLOW, Anthony, T.; 5444 Geneva Avenue, San Diego, CA 92114 (US). (74) Agents: MILLER, Russell, B. et al.; Qualcomm Incorporated, 6455 Lusk Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92121 (US).</p> <p>(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p>		
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INTERFACING A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICE WITH AN ACCESSORY



(57) Abstract

A method and system for interfacing a wireless communication device (100) with an external accessory (102). The system includes an attach detector (110) for detecting an attachment of the wireless communication device and the external accessory (102). In response to the attachment detection, a controller (108) downloads accessory interface software from the external accessory (102) to the wireless communication device (100). Thereafter, the wireless communication device interfaces with the external accessory according to instructions in the accessory interface software. As a result, the non-volatile memory size requirements for the mobile station (100) are reduced due to the accessory specific interface software being stored in the external accessory (102) itself for dynamic upload to the mobile station only when it is required.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is a novel and improved method and system for interfacing a wireless communication device with an external accessory.

- 5 The system includes an attach detector for detecting an attachment of the wireless communication device and the external accessory. In response to the attachment detection, a controller downloads accessory interface software from the external accessory to the wireless communication device. Thereafter, the wireless communication device interfaces with the external
- 10 accessory according to instructions in said accessory interface software. In one embodiment, the controller initiates authentication of said external accessory prior to downloading the accessory interface software and refuses to interface with the external accessory if the authentication fails.

Using the dynamic download techniques of the present invention, the size and cost of memory in the mobile station will be substantially less than the total memory required to store all of the accessory interface software for all possible accessories, as is traditionally required in the prior art. In short, the non-volatile memory size requirements for the mobile station are reduced due to the accessory specific interface software being stored in the external accessory itself for dynamic upload to the mobile station only when it is required.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- 25 The features, objects, and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the detailed description set forth below when taken in conjunction with the drawings in which like reference characters identify correspondingly throughout and wherein:

FIG. 1 is a functional block diagram of the system of the present invention; and

FIG. 2 is a flow diagram of the method of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The present invention is applicable to any wireless communication device, including cellular telephones, PCS telephones, Wireless Local Loop (WLL) telephones, and other wireless communication devices as are known in the art. For convenience, the wireless communication device will be referred to herein as a mobile station, but it is understood that the present invention is equally applicable to fixed, or non-portable telephones.

Referring now to FIG. 1, a functional block diagram of the present invention is illustrated. A mobile station 100, such as a cellular or PCS telephone is illustrated as interfacing with an external accessory 102, such as a hands-free car adapter or a data dock. Mobile station 100 interfaces with external accessory 112 through an interface 112.

Interface 112 may be an electrical connector and associated circuitry as is known in the art for the transfer of data signals. For example, the interface 112 may be a Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface as is known in the art. Alternately, interface 112 may be similar to that described in detail in copending U. S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/593,305, entitled "PORTABLE COMMUNICATION DEVICE AND ACCESSORY SYSTEM", filed January 31, 1996, assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated herein by reference. The just-mentioned patent describes a portable communications device and accessory system which enables both voice and control commands to be communicated between a mobile station and external accessories over a single flexible digital interface. When the mobile station is interfaced to external accessories, such as a power booster and hands-free kit, a mobile station controller configures the serial communications bus to pass both the digital voice data and digital control commands to and from the external power booster and the hands-free kit.

The external hands-free kit contains its own auxiliary CODEC for encoding analog voice signals and decoding the digital voice data. When the mobile station is not interfaced with external accessories, the mobile station controller configures the serial communication bus to pass the digital voice data to and from an internal CODEC for use with the portable device's own microphone and speaker. Alternately, interface 112 may be a wireless interface using radio frequency (RF), infra-red (IR), or magnetic B-field modulation as is known in the art. The specific configuration of interface 112 is not critical to the present invention, and any suitable interface

circuitry or method may be used. However, in the preferred embodiment, interface 112 conforms to the USB Specification.

In the preferred embodiment, mobile station 100 includes an attach detector 110 which functions to detect the attachment of the external accessory 102 through interface 112. The implementation of attach detector 110 depends on the technology used for interface 112, whether it be USB, proprietary electrical connection circuitry, IR, RF, or B-field. In the preferred embodiment, attach detector 110 detects the physical connection of mobile station 100 to external accessory 102 by detecting a transition in current from an idle level to an active level in interface 112 when mobile station 100 is connected to external accessory 102. However, in alternate implementations, attach detector 110 may actively "poll" interface 112 for an attached condition. For example, in an embodiment where interface 112 is an IR interface, attach detector 110 periodically polls interface 112 for a presence message. In an alternate embodiment where interface 112 is an RF or B-field interface, attach detector 110 periodically reads a receiver ADC of interface 112 to detect a value. Thus, attach detector 110 may be any detection circuitry as is known in the art, whether it detects a transition passively, or actively polls interface 112.

It also should be noted that the term "attach" as used herein does not strictly refer to physical or mechanical attachment. As used herein, the term "attach" is defined more broadly as sufficient proximity between the mobile station 100 and the external accessory 102 as to allow the communications described herein below. For example, if interface 112 is a standard USB electrical interface, physical touching of the data connectors of external accessory 102 and mobile station 100 is the requisite attachment. However, if interface 112 is a wireless interface such as IR, RF, or B-field, attachment occurs when the mobile station 100 and the external accessory 102 are within sufficient proximity to allow communication between the two. The actual physical proximity required for attachment is dependent on the nature of the technology used, including the strength of any wireless transmitters, and the sensitivity of any wireless receivers that comprise interface 112.

Upon detecting the attachment of the external accessory 102 through interface 112, attach detector 110 generates an attach signal, preferably in the form of an interrupt, to mobile station controller 110. In response to the attach signal, mobile station controller 108 begins executing instructions contained in mobile station control memory 104. Specifically, mobile station control memory 104 contains software code for executing the method described herein, and with further reference to FIG. 2 below. Mobile station

control memory 104 may be any memory device or type as is known in the art. In the preferred embodiment, mobile station control memory 104 is non-volatile flash memory.

Mobile station controller 108, in response to the software instructions contained in mobile station control memory 104, acts as a "host" entity in relation to external accessory 102. To this end, mobile station controller 108 polls accessory controller 114 to verify the presence of external accessory 102. Accessory controller 114 may be any suitable microcontroller or programmable microprocessor as is known in the art.

In response to the poll from mobile station controller 108, accessory controller 114 begins executing instructions contained in accessory control memory 116. Specifically, accessory control memory 104 contains software code for executing the method described herein, and with further reference to FIG. 2 below. Accessory control memory 116 may be any memory device or type as is known in the art. In the preferred embodiment, accessory control memory 104 is non-volatile flash memory.

Accessory controller 114, in response to the software instructions contained in accessory control memory 116, acts as a "client" entity in relation to mobile station controller 108, which as previously stated, acts as a "host" entity.

In alternate embodiments, the "host" and "client" roles are reversed, with the external accessory 102 acting as the "host", and the mobile station 100 acting as the "client." In this alternate embodiment, the attach detector 110 would be located on the accessory side, rather than the mobile station side, and the sequence of events would be directed by the accessory controller 114.

Optionally, mobile station controller 108 may first initiate authentication of external accessory 102 in order to verify that external accessory 102 is a valid accessory. Many different methods of authentication as are known in the art may be used. For example, in one embodiment, accessory control memory 116 contains a "secret code" which is transmitted to mobile station controller 108. Mobile station controller 108 then compares the "secret code" with a corresponding one stored in mobile station control memory 104. If the two codes match, then the external accessory 102 is presumed valid, and mobile station controller 108 proceeds as described below.

In other embodiments, mobile station controller 108 may authenticate external accessory 102 using well known public and private key computations. Still other embodiments use other authentication

Once the download is complete, or optionally at periodic intervals during the download of the accessory interface software, the mobile station controller 108 verifies the accessory interface software at block 210, for example, by using checksums or other error detection methods as are known in the art.

If it is determined at decision 212 that the downloaded software was received with errors, and is therefore an invalid download, the flow returns to block 208 where all or part of the accessory interface software is again downloaded.

On the other hand, once it is determined at decision 212 that all of the accessory interface software was received without errors, and is therefore valid, the flow proceeds to block 214. At block 214, mobile station controller 108 executes the accessory interface software routines as stored in interface upload memory 106 when interfacing with external accessory 102.

It should be noted that interface upload memory 106 should be large enough to store the entire accessory interface software for the most complex external accessory 102 anticipated. However, it is understood that the size and cost of interface upload memory 106 will be substantially less than the total memory required to store all of the accessory interface software for all possible accessories, as is traditionally required in the prior art. In short, the non-volatile memory size requirements for the mobile station 100 are reduced due to the accessory specific interface software being stored in the external accessory 102 itself for dynamic upload to the mobile station 100 only when it is required.

The previous description of the preferred embodiments is provided to enable any person skilled in the art to make or use the present invention. The various modifications to these embodiments will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art, and the generic principles defined herein may be applied to other embodiments without the use of the inventive faculty. Thus, the present invention is not intended to be limited to the embodiments shown herein but is to be accorded the widest scope consistent with the principles and novel features disclosed herein.

I CLAIM:

CLAIMS

1. A system for interfacing a wireless communication device with
2 an external accessory, the system comprising:
 - an attach detector for detecting an attachment of said wireless
4 communication device and said external accessory; and
 - a controller for downloading accessory interface software from said
6 external accessory to said wireless communication device in response to said
attachment detection;
 - 8 wherein said wireless communication device interfaces with said
external accessory according to instructions in said accessory interface
10 software.
2. The system of claim 1 further comprising:
 - 2 a first memory element, in said external accessory, for storing said
accessory interface software; and
 - 4 a second memory element, in said wireless communication device,
for storing said downloaded accessory interface software.
3. The system of claim 2 wherein said controller initiates
2 authentication of said external accessory prior to downloading said accessory
interface software.
4. The system of claim 3 wherein said wireless communication
2 device does not interface with said external accessory if said authentication
fails.
5. A method for interfacing a wireless communication device
2 with an external accessory, the method comprising the steps of:
 - detecting an attachment of said wireless communication device and
4 said external accessory;
 - downloading accessory interface software from said external accessory
6 to said wireless communication device in response to said detecting step;
and
 - 8 interfacing said wireless communication device with said external
accessory according to instructions in said accessory interface software.
6. The method of claim 5 further comprising the steps of:

- 2 storing said accessory interface software in a first memory element in
said external accessory; and
- 4 storing said downloaded accessory interface software in a second
memory element in said wireless communication device.

7. The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of initiating
2 authentication of said external accessory prior to said step of downloading
said accessory interface software.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of not
2 interfacing said wireless communication device with said external accessory
if said authentication fails.

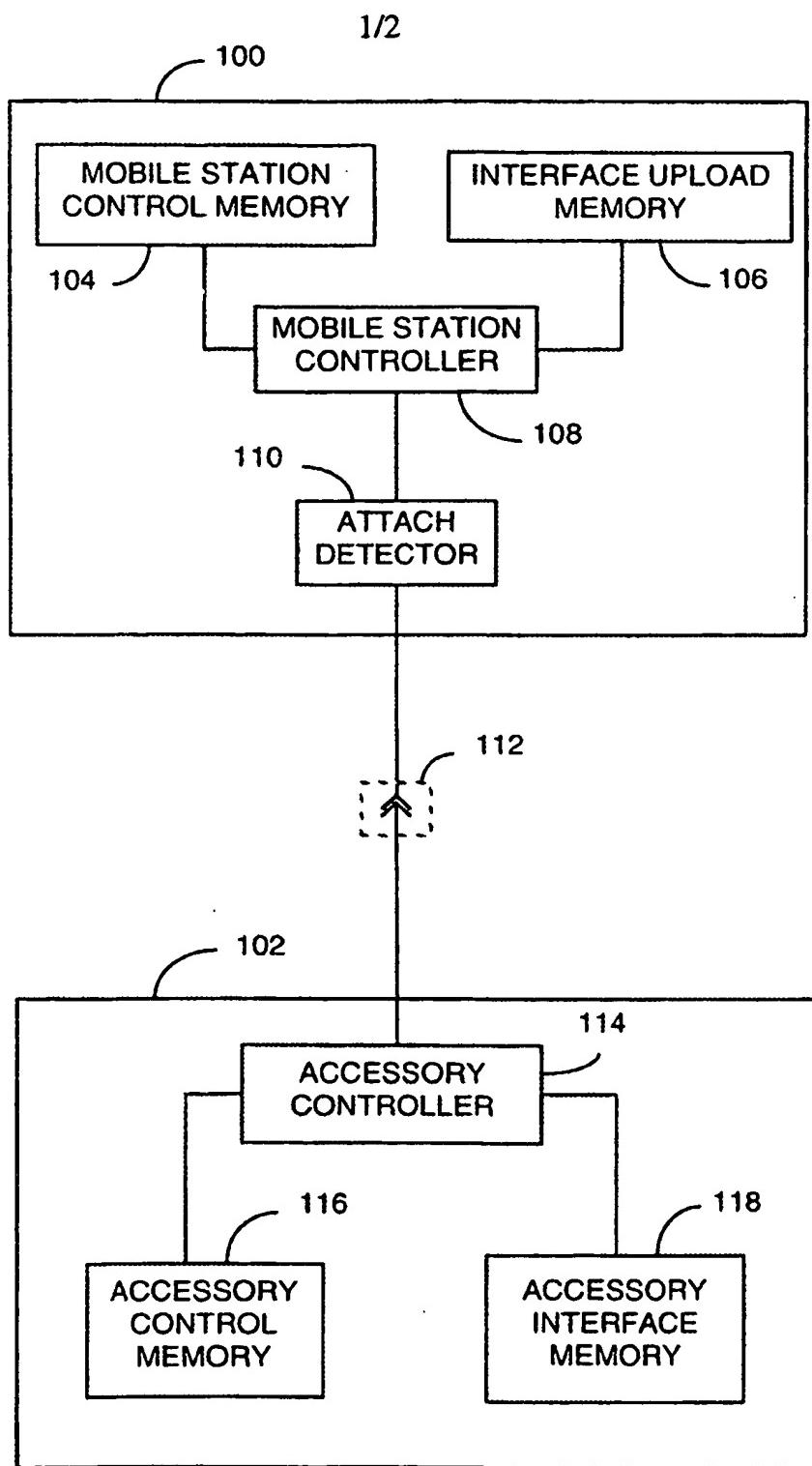
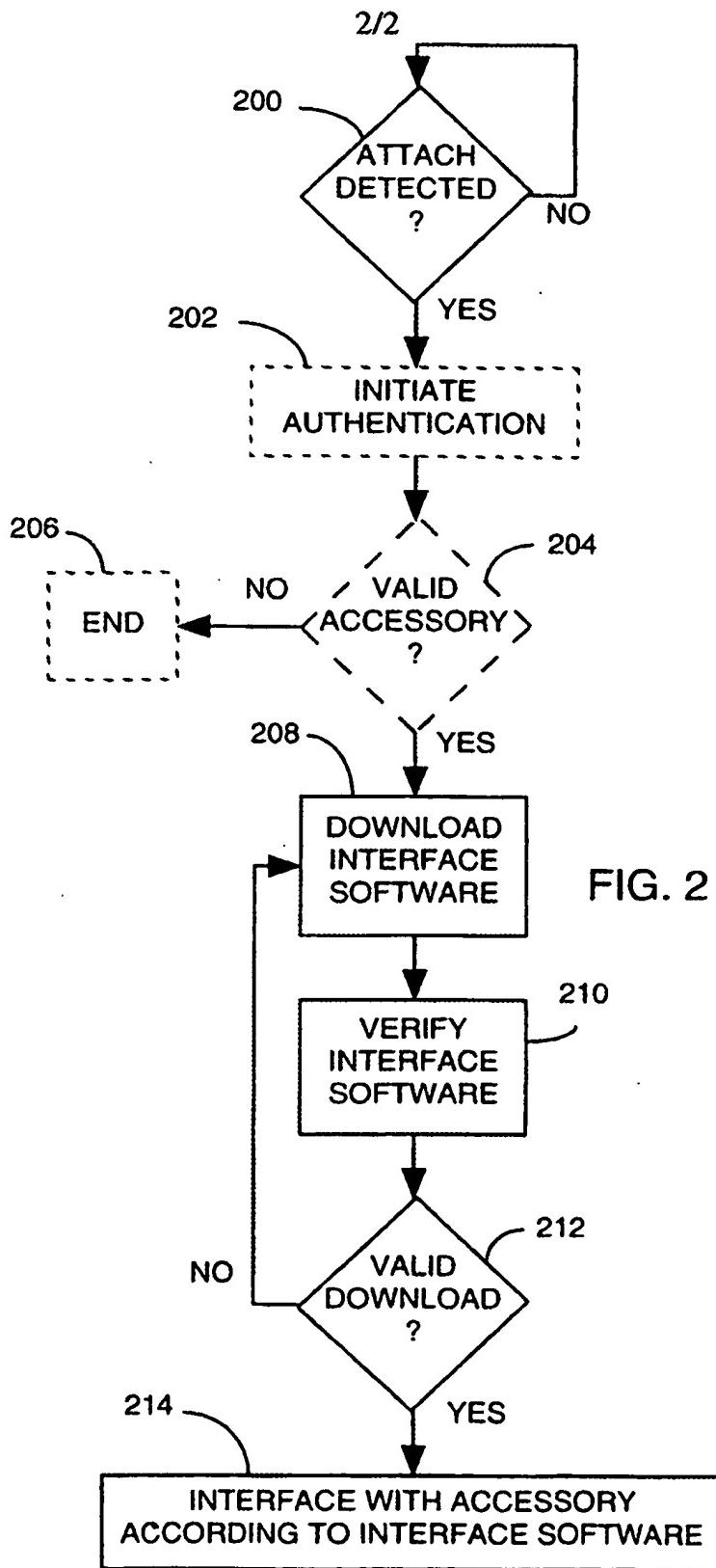


FIG. 1



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 99/07273

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 H04B1/38 H04M1/72

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6 H04B H04M H04Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 835 013 A (NOKIA MOBILE PHONES LTD) 8 April 1998 (1998-04-08) abstract column 1, line 56 - column 3, line 46 column 5, line 20 - line 53; claims 1-3,9,12 figures 5,6 -----	1-8
X	US 5 689 823 A (PHILLIPS JOSEPH E) 18 November 1997 (1997-11-18) the whole document -----	1,2,5,6
A	MILLS D: "ACCESSORY DETECTION BY OSCILLATION" MOTOROLA TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENTS, vol. 28, 1 August 1996 (1996-08-01), pages 86-88, XP000638429 the whole document -----	3,4,7,8
A	MILLS D: "ACCESSORY DETECTION BY OSCILLATION" MOTOROLA TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENTS, vol. 28, 1 August 1996 (1996-08-01), pages 86-88, XP000638429 the whole document -----	1-8

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Information on patent family members

Intern. Appl. No.
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